

## Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-07

SWF-02 DRC-01 /053 W

----- 089519

R 090645Z JUNE 74

FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3821

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMCONSUL KHORRAMSHAR

UNCLAS DHAHRAN 0538

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, SA

SUBJECT: PORT CONGESTION SURCHARGE

REF: (A) STATE 119329 (B) DHAHRAN 0455

1. DURING MONTH OF MAY, 1974, TOTAL OF 40 VESSELS DISCHARGED CARGO OF VARIOUS TYPES AT PORT OF DAMMAM REPEAT DAMMAM. TOTAL 158,060 TONS DISCHARGED AT RATE 5,098.4 TONS PER DAY. WAITING TIME FOR VESSELS OBTAIN PORT FACILITIES AVERAGED TWO TO THREE DAYS (THIS DOWN FROM WAITING PERIOD OF ALMOST 23 DAYS EARLIER IN YEAR), AND FOR FEW DAYS DURING MAY, DAMMAM PORT ACTUALLY HAD SEVERAL FREE BERTHS.

2. PER REFTTEL B, DAMMAM PORT AUTHORITY WELL AWARE CONGESTION PROBLEMS AND RECENTLY INAUGURATED ANOTHER NEW BERTH. SECOND NEW BERTH UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND SIX MORE NEW BERTHS ARE PLANNED. TO RELIEVE ALONG SIDE CONGESTION, PORT UTILIZING LIGHTERS, AND SOME LOCAL MERCHANTS AS WELL AS ARAMCO ARE DIVERTING SHIPMENTS TO DOHA AND TRUCKING THESE OVERLAND TO SAUDI ARABIA. MEANWHILE, PORT PLANNING FOR RE-EQUIPING AND FOR PURCHASING

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ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT TO COPE WITH INCREASED UTILIZATION DAMMAM PORT.

3. SAG ACTIVELY PLANNING FOR NEW PORT CONSTRUCTION ON ARAEGULF AS PART OF FIVE YEAR PLAN WHICH INCLUDES HEAVY CONCENTRATION ON INDUSTRIALIZATION OF EASTERN PROVINCE.

4. COMMENT: REDUCTION IN TURN AROUND TIME PROBABLY DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE OPENING THREE NEW BERTHS AND EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES INITIATED BY NEW TECHNOCRAT DIRECTOR OF RAILROADS WHO RESPONSIBLE FOR PORT. EASING CUSTOMS CLEARING PROCEDURES, EMPLOYING THREE SHIFTS ON 24-HOUR BASIS, AND PERMITTING UTILIZATION TRUCKS AS WELL AS RAILROAD CARS TO MOVE CARGO FROM PORT HAVE RESULTED IN MINIMAL TURN AROUND TIMES. SHORT WAITING PERIOD FOR PORT FACILITIES IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE.  
BAHTI

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CARGO, PORT CHARGES, PORT FACILITIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974DHAHRA00538  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D740147-1170  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) STATE 119329 (B) DHAHRAN 0455  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinjw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2003 by martinjw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971030  
**Subject:** PORT CONGESTION SURCHARGE  
**TAGS:** ETRN, SA, ETRN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005